

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



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STATE OF MONTANA

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October 16, 2006

Ms. Judith Norris
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services
Office of Acquisition and Grants Management
Mailstop C2-21-15
7500 Security Boulevard
Baltimore, MD 21244-1850

Dear Ms. Norris:

Montana's Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) is the Single State Agency for Medicaid as well as the State Mental Health Authority. As Director of the Department, I am pleased to submit this request for participation in the Medicaid Program's Demonstration Project: *Community-Based Alternatives to Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities* (HHS-2007-CMS-PRTF-0002). The Children's Mental Health Bureau of the Health Resources Division of the DPHHS will serve as the submitting agency for the AMP Montana (Alternatives for Medicaid to PRTFs in Montana) project. This agency has clear authority to oversee and coordinate the proposed activities and is very capable of convening a suitable working group of all relevant partners. The principle contact person will be Mary Dalton, Administrator of the Human Resources Division of the DPHHS.

AMP Montana reflects an important opportunity for our state. This project will target youth between the ages of 6 – 16, who have primary diagnoses of SED, meet the level of care for residential treatment, and are either in residential treatment or at high risk of being placed in a PRTF. This project will allow us to create the wraparound, client- and family-centered services and supports needed to maintain 100 youth in their homes and communities during the life of the demonstration. In support of this effort, Montana is requesting \$333,630.32 in federal funds for the first year.

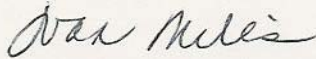
Montana will incorporate the efforts of numerous active partners in this project, including the Youth Services Division of the Department of Corrections, the Office of Public Instruction, Montana's Youth Courts, NAMI Montana, and the many community partners who serve as members of the Yellowstone County Kids Management Authority (KMA). Once the grant is awarded, the Department will notify the Federally recognized Tribes in Montana, thus abiding by the directive addressed in the Dear State Medicaid Director

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#01-024 dated July 17, 2001. Additionally, I am committed to ensuring that all pertinent divisions and programs under the umbrella of the DPHHS offer the full weight of their cooperation and support to this project. These include, but are not limited to, the Addictive and Mental Disorders Division, the Disability Services Division, SCHIP, and the Child and Family Services Division.

This is an exciting opportunity that will enable the Department to offer services and supports to some of Montana's highest risk youth, all on a cost-neutral basis. We believe the enclosed application will meet the needs of the Department, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the many young Montanans with Serious Emotional Disturbances who need community and family supports to achieve stable, healthy and safe lifestyles in community settings. Please call Mary Dalton (406) 444-5401 if you have any questions regarding this application.

Sincerely,



Joan Miles, Director
Department of Public Health and Human Services

cc: Mary Dalton, Administrator, Health Resources Division
Pete W. Surdock, Chief, Children's Mental Health Bureau